

October 8, 2008 ADRC-TAE Newsletter

A Weekly Update for Aging & Disability Resource Center
Grantees and their Partners

*You must be logged in to the ADRC-TAE.org website to
access newsletter links.
Contact Allison Yudt at The Lewin Group with questions:
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2008 ADRC National Meeting

Thank you to
everyone who
attended the
2008 ADRC
National
Meeting!

We hope you
enjoyed the
event and
found it useful
as a forum to
share ideas
with your
peers.

We are looking
forward to

HHS and AoA Announce New Grants!

\$36 Million to Help Older Americans and Veterans Remain Independent

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently announced \$36 million in new grant programs to 28 states to help older Americans and veterans remain independent and to support people with Alzheimer's disease to remain in their homes and communities. Just over \$19 million of this funding involves a new collaboration with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

HHS Secretary Mike Leavitt and VA Secretary James Peake, M.D., announced the joint effort to provide essential consumer-directed home and community-based services to older Americans and veterans of all ages, as part of a Nursing Home Diversion (NHD) grants program. In addition, Secretary Leavitt announced a \$17 million investment to improve the delivery of home and community-based services to people with Alzheimer's disease and their family caregivers. The new program will be administered by HHS' Administration on Aging (AoA) in collaboration with the Veterans Health Administration.

The full press release can be found on [AoA's website](#).



Upcoming Technical Assistance Events

Semi-Annual Reporting Tool (SART) Training

Semi-Annual Reporting Tool (SART) Training will be held on October 9th and 23rd to provide step-by-step instructions on the reporting process. This training will cover the online narrative section of the SART where qualitative data is reported as well as the Excel Entry Tool where quantitative data (e.g., budget, staffing services and outcomes) is reported. Please join us if you are new to reporting!

- **Date:** October 9th and October 23rd
- **Time:** 2:30 - 3:30 PM Eastern
- **Toll-Free Number:** 1-888-844-7278
- **Participant Passcode for phone:** 2695542, then #

reading your evaluations of the conference. If you did not complete an evaluation in Boston, you will be able to access an electronic version of the feedback survey next week.

Presentations and handouts prepared by speakers and presenters for the event have been posted on the [National Meeting page](#) on the ADRC website. They are organized by session.

Please email adrc-tae@lewin.com with any questions.

:: adrc-tae@lewin.com ::

:: www.adrc-tae.org ::

- **Webinar ID:** 304-231-791

Family Support 360 Webinar on Emergency Preparedness for People with Disabilities

The Administration on Developmental Disabilities and their TA providers, BETAH Associates, invite ADRC grantees to join them for this discussion of emergency preparedness, with a focus on individuals with disabilities. Patricia Morrissey, Ph.D., Commissioner of the Administration on Developmental Disabilities will be the keynote presenter.

- **Date:** Tuesday, October 14th
- **Time:** 3:00 - 4:00pm Eastern
- **Toll-Free number:** 1-866-962-6634
- **Participant Passcode for phone:** 37644064, then #
- **To join the online meeting,** go to <https://betah.webex.com/betah/j.php?ED=108818332&UID=0&PW=3bc75e72c42c203e5928404140b213c37> and enter your name, email address, and the meeting password "familysupport" - then click "Join Now"

Health Information Technology TA Call with CMS

CMS staff will present information to ADRC grantees about their ongoing efforts in the area of health information technology.

- **Date:** Thursday, October 30th
- **Time:** 2:30 - 3:30 pm Eastern
- **Toll-Free number:** 1-888-844-7278
- **Participant Passcode for phone:** 2695542, then #
- **Webinar ID:** TBA

"Let Elders Age Independently and with Dignity"



Gene Coffey, a staff attorney at the National Seniors Citizens Law Center wrote an article entitled "Let Elders Age Independently and with Dignity", published in the Journal of Poverty and Law Policy.

The article suggests how legal aid attorneys, especially Title III.B attorneys, can work with ADRCs to expand a community's knowledge of long-term care to help maximize the choices available for those who do or will need services.

Mr. Coffey explains how, because funding under the Older Americans Act for legal assistance is a priority service, Title III.B attorneys are vital to the fulfillment of this mission, and their work with ADRCs may potentially play a part.

The full text of the article can be found on [the ADRC website](#), and [a discussion group about the Coffey article can be found here](#).

A New Direction for Peer Learning: ADRC Trainings

As ADRC programs continue to evolve at the state and local levels, opportunities to learn from your peers will be facilitated by the Technical Assistance Exchange (TAE) through a series of interactive on-line training courses. These courses will be offered beginning in November of 2008 and cover a variety of topics based on the major ADRC fully functional domains.

The topic for the first course will be an introduction to ADRCs for developing programs. This will be followed by courses on options counseling for ADRC staff and options counseling for ADRC program planners and managers. The content of the courses will build on the lessons learned from the first five years of the ADRC grant program.

These training series will replace formal peer work groups. However, the technical assistance exchange remains committed to connecting you with your peers on topics that matter to you. We invite you to contact us if there is a topic you would like to discuss with your peers and we will facilitate communication opportunities among interested persons.

The TAE is currently exploring the possibility of providing continuing education credits from the National Association of Social Workers for the trainings. Please let us know your level of interest in CEUs by contacting Barbara Ettner barbara.ettner@lewin.com or Gilbert Thompson gilbert.thompson@lewin.com.